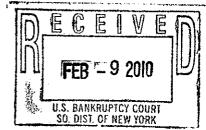
## ALFARO ABOGADOS

February 5, 2010

Clerk of the United States Bankruptcy Court for The Southern District of New York One Bowling Green New York, NY 10004

Irving H. Picard, Trustee c/o Baker & Hostetler LP Attn: Claims Department 45 Rockefeller Plaza New York, NY 10111



# Case No. 08-1789 (BRL)

# MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION OF TRUSTEE'S DETERMINATION OF CLAIM NUMBER 011354

1. I, Soledad Matteozzi, by and on behalf of, Mr. Eduardo Bello ("Client"), hereby file this opposition (the "Opposition") to the Trustee's Determination of Claim dated December 8<sup>th</sup> 2009 (the "Trustee's Determination"), attached as Exhibit A hereto, which time to file a written opposition was extended to February 9, 2010 by the attorney's Trustee by email, attached hereto as Exhibit B, and in which Irving H. Picard (the "Trustee") stated that the claim that the Client submitted on a Customer Claim Form and its Addendum, and additional documentation (the "Claim") for customer treatment of cash and/or securities under Securities Investment Protection Act ("SIPA"), with assigned claim Number 011354, was DENIED.

#### New York

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- 2. The Trustee sent the Client the Trustee's Determination, in which he stated that the Claim is "DENIED because the Client is not a customer of BLMIS under SIPA, since it did not have an account with BLMIS". The Trustee's Determination did not offer any other basis for denying the Claim, nor did it supply any explanation for its assertion that the amounts held on behalf of, and owed to the Client is not customer property under SIPA.
- 3. Pursuant to the Trustee's Determination any claimant who is aggrieved by a Trustee's Determination must file a written opposition, setting forth the grounds for its disagreement to have its opposition heard by this Court. In support of the written opposition, the Client respectfully states as follows:

### **BASIS FOR OPPOSITION**

- 4. The Trustee wrongfully denied the Claim. Despite the Trustee's assertion to the contrary, the amounts that the Client claims shall be customer property under SIPA.
- 5. The sole basis cited by the Trustee for denying the Claim is that the "cash and/or securities that [the Client] claimed are not customer property pursuant to SIPA, since the Client does not hold an account with BLMIS. The Trustee's Determination, however, does not supply any basis for that assertion.
- 6. The Trustee's conclusion that the Client is not a customer of BLMIS and that the assets underlying the claim are not customer property under SIPA are inconsistent with the purpose of the SIPA, and the SIPC, and its goal to protect investors.
- 7. As the Client understands the goal of SIPC to be, SIPC is a non government entity that protects customers of failing brokerage houses in an effort to redress their losses and maintain a balance in the financial markets, avoiding a domino collapse of the system. Under the present scenario where many Investors such as the Client was deceived by the feeder funds in terms of the investment strategy pursued, which in fact consisted only and exclusively in transferring the funds to BLMIS, it is clear that the SIPC protection should be extended to this Customers.

- 8. The Client invested in Plaza Investments International Limited ("Plaza") funds created for the sole purpose of feeding funds to BLMIS. The shareholders of Plaza entrusted their funds to a feeder fund which only purpose was to invest in BLMIS. Therefore, they were victimized by BLMIS directly, and shall be entitled to the same immediate and equitable relief as other customers that had direct accounts with BLMIS. Any distinction between investors like the Client and other investors who held accounts at BLMIS is arbitrary and discriminatory.
- 9. It is evident that Plaza is not a "direct investor" in BLMIS, but an instrument used to channel very much needed funds in BLMIS. Funds like Plaza played an important role in the whole scheme and affect the market that SIPA wants to protect. Investors in those funds should therefore be protected as they invested directly in BLMIS through one "extended arm".
- 10. The Client, has suffered the same economic loss as other direct Customers, having been equally deceived by Bernard Madoff and/or the feeder funds, which only purpose was to invest 100% of its assets in BLMIS. Discriminating against this Customers leave them unprotected having to rely on their own means to seek relief against multinational giants.
- 11. Additionally, the Second Circuit has observed, in the legislative history of SIPA the term "investor" is used synonymously with "customer", indicating that, in the eyes of the Congress, the Act would protect capital markets by instilling confidence in security traders. SIPC vs Morgan Kennedy & Co., 533 F.2d 1314, 1317 (2d Cir. 1976). The purpose of SIPA is "protection for investors if the broker-dealer with whom they are doing business encounters financial troubles.
- 12. In short, the lone reason advanced by the Trustee for denying the Client's Claim is without merit. Accordingly, the Trustee's Determination should be overruled, the Claim allowed, and, in connection with the SIPA liquidation of BLMIS, the Client's customer property should be returned.
- 13. In the event that the Trustee, in response to this written opposition, modifies his reason for denying the Claim, introduces new arguments, or recognizes another customer in similar

situation, the Client reserves the right to object to such determination in accordance with the

procedures established by the Trustee for claim determinations, or such other procedures as this

Court deems appropriate. The Client also reserves the right to further amend or supplement this

written opposition and the Claim.

Claimant hereby re-asserts an ESTIMATED claim for SIPC protection; and in the 14.

liquidation of the business of BLMIS, in the amount of three million two hundred fifty-one

thousand and five hundred eighty-nine United States Dollars with seventy five (\$3,251,589.75)

and additional interests, fees and expenses incurred for the recovery of its claim.

Accordingly, the Client objects to the Trustee Determination and requests that this Court 15.

(i) afford the Claim customer treatment under SIPA and (ii) grant the Client such other and

further relief as this Court may deem just or proper.

NO PRIOR RELIEF

The relief requested by the Client in this written opposition has not been sought previously 16.

in this or any other court.

**NOTICES** 

All communications, notices, inquires related to this filing and to the Client, shall be sent 17.

to the attention of:

Mr. Eduardo Bello

c/o Soledad Matteozzi

Alfaro-Abogados

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Attn: Soledad Matteozzi, Esq.

## **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

18. The Client reserves all rights with respect to the claims asserted herein. The Client further reserves all rights to file an amended written opposition and/or reply.

Dated: February 5, 2010

New York, New York

Respectfully submitted

By: Soledad Matteozzi

By and on behalf of Eduardo Bello